

CLAIM AMENDMENTS

Please cancel claims 1-5 and add new claims 6-24 as follows:

Claims 1-5 (canceled)

Claim 6 (new): A decanter apparatus, comprising:

a container having an open top end and a lower end;

a filter disposed in the container;

a glass sphere received in the container above the filter, so that a beverage may be poured into the open top end of the container to flow over the sphere to aerate the beverage, and through the filter to filter the beverage, and into a lower portion of the container below the filter; and

a valve connected to the lower end of the container for dispensing the beverage from the container, the valve including an actuator for moving the valve between a closed position and an open position.

Claim 7 (new): The apparatus of claim 6, wherein:

the container is made of glass and includes an indentation ring formed in the glass container; and

the filter rests upon the indentation ring.

Claim 8 (new): The apparatus of claim 7, wherein:

the container has a capacity such that a full bottle of wine fills the container above the indentation ring so that any sediment from wine poured into the container will be released into an upper portion of the container above the filter.

Claim 9 (new): The apparatus of claim 6, wherein:

the filter comprises a concave shape; and

the glass sphere is received in the concave shape of the filter.

Claim 10 (new): The apparatus of claim 6, wherein:

the filter comprises a stainless steel mesh.

Claim 11 (new): The apparatus of claim 6, wherein:

the glass sphere contains a liquid medium.

Claim 12 (new): The apparatus of claim 11, wherein:

the liquid medium in the glass sphere is water.

Claim 13 (new): The apparatus of claim 6, further comprising:

a support structure including a base and at least two support rods extending upward from the base, and a removable clip connecting the two support rods for squeezing the support rods against the container to hold the container firmly in the support structure.

Claim 14 (new): The apparatus of claim 13, wherein:

the container includes an indentation ring between its top end and its lower end; and

the two support rods engage the indentation ring of the container.

Claim 15 (new): The apparatus of claim 6, wherein:

the valve comprises a valve body, and the actuator comprises a lever having an external portion extending out of the valve body and an internal portion extending into the valve body, and the valve further comprises a biasing spring biasing the internal portion of the lever upwardly toward a closed position, so that a user may press upward on the external portion of the lever to open the valve and dispense wine from the container.

Claim 16 (new): The apparatus of claim 6, wherein:

the filter includes an air vent for allowing air to escape from the container.

Claim 17 (new): A decanter apparatus, comprising:

a glass container having an upper end and a lower end, the upper end being open;

a filter received in the container between the upper end and the lower end, the filter engaging and resting on the container, the filter comprising a concave filter portion;

a wine bubble received in the concave filter portion; and

a valve connected to the lower end of the container.

Claim 18 (new): The apparatus of claim 17, wherein:

the container includes an internal flange at the lower end of the container;
and

the valve includes an O-ring seal between the valve and the internal flange of the container.

Claim 19 (new): The apparatus of claim 18, wherein:

the valve comprises a valve body, a lever having an external portion extending out of the valve body and an internal portion extending into the valve body, and the valve further comprises a biasing spring biasing the internal portion of the lever upwardly toward a closed position, so that a user may press upward on the external portion of the lever to open the valve and dispense wine from the container.

Claim 20 (new): The apparatus of claim 17, wherein:

the filter includes air vents for allowing air to escape from the container as the air is displaced with wine being poured into the container.

Claim 21 (new): The apparatus of claim 17, wherein the filter comprises a stainless steel mesh.

Claim 22 (new): The apparatus of claim 17, wherein the wine bubble comprises a glass sphere.

Claim 23 (new): The apparatus of claim 17, wherein the wine bubble contains a liquid medium.

Claim 24 (new): The apparatus of claim 23, wherein the liquid medium comprises water.